

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 00436 011114Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /055 W
-----011239 089499 /10 L

R 281915Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4272
INX RUEHVF/AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN 1637
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 0436

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GY
SUBJECT: REACTION TO PRESS REPORTS OF CIA PAYMENTS TO BIRNHAM

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 0391, (B) GEORGETOWN 0421

1. REPERCUSSION FROM US PRESS REPORTS THAT BURNHAM RECEIVED PAYMENTS FROM CIA IS GAINING STRENGTH IN GEORGETOWN. RADICALS IN PEOPLE'S NATIONAL CONGRESS (PNC) ARE ALLEGING THAT THE LEAK OF BURNHAM'S NAME ALONG WITH OTHER RECIPIENTS OF CIA FUNDS WAS DELIBERATE LEAK BY HOSTILE "SECTORS" OF USG TOP GOG LEADERS HA HOPED THAT THE CIA/BURNHAM STORY WOULD FADE, BUT FQrong STATEMENT PUBLISHZF HERE (FULL TEXT BEING CABLED) BY VENEZUELAN DEMANDI G AN APOLOGY AND THE NEWS OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT PEREZ IS PLACING GOG OFFICIALS UNDER STRONG PRESSURES TVUACT.

2. LATE FEB. 26 GOG ISSUED REVISED AND TRUNCATED VERSION TOV I
ESS RELEASE FONMIN WILLS HAD SHOWN ME FEB. 25 T T RE-
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VIDED RELEASE HAD NONE OF THE ANTI-US OVERTONES OF THE FIRST DRAFT PREPARED BY MINISTER OF STATE NASCIMENTO AND APPEARS INOFFENSIVE TO USG. FULL TEXT FOLLOWS:
QUOTE REPORTS HAVE APPEARED IN SECTIONS OF CERTAIN NEWSPAPERS IN THE U.S.A., NOTABLY THE WASHINGTON POST AND THE NEW YORK TIMES, IN WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER OF GUYANA, COMRADE FORBES BURNHAM, IS NAMED, AMONG OTHER WORLD LEADERS, AS BEING A

RECIPIENT OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY PAYMENTS. THESE REPORTS ARE UNTRUE. REFERENCE TO GUYANA'S FOREIGN POLICY RECORD AND MORE ESPECIALLY GUYANA'S COMMITMENT TO NON-ALIGNMENT SINCE PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM'S GOVERNMENT TOOK OFFICE 12 YEARS AGO, IN FACT, MAKE THE REPORTS LUDICROUS AND INCREDIBLY STUPID. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT IRRESPONSIBLE, AND SENSATION SEEKING REPORTS OF THIS SORT ARE ELEVATED TO THE LEVEL OF ATTENTION GIVEN BY ACTIONS OF THE U.S. MEDIA, V AS IT GIVES RISE TO THE SUSPICION THAT THEY ARE AIMED AT CREATING INTERNATIONAL TENSION. END QUOTE

3. THE RELEASE, WHICH APPEARED ON LAST PAGE OF SUNDAY'S "GUYANA CHRONICLE," WILL PROBABLY NOT EASE PRESSURES ON GOG. THE OPPOSITION WORKING PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE IN ITS NEWSLETTER OF FEB. 27 SEIZED UPON THE ISSUE, HITTING HARD AT BURNHAM.
BLACKEN

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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